

to bring family tradition and a fine dining experience to their customers. Whether in the original building or the current one built in 1976, they continuously emphasized the importance of serving quality food with the highest level of customer service. And with a unique collection of specialty dining rooms, each having a personality all its own, House of Embers quickly became a staple in the community and continues to attract people from all over Wisconsin and beyond.

After Wally and Barbara finally hung up their aprons in 1998 and set sail for retirement, three of their children purchased the restaurant with the intention of carrying on the Obois family tradition of fine dining. Mark and Mike Obois, graduates of the Culinary Institute of America, and their sister Deb Christensen, proved to be a successful trio as House of Embers ushered in the new millennium. In 2004, the late Dennis Getto, a restaurant critic for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, best characterized the famous Obois family ribs when he wrote, "My first bite told me that this was real barbecue—the hickory smoke had permeated the rib meat and enriched its flavor."

For exceptional longevity and superb originality, I congratulate Wally's House of Embers on a half century of providing a uniquely Wisconsin dining experience. The Obois tradition of fine dining is a symbol of the family's dedication to serving our community not only great food, but also laughter, joy, and a friendly smile. I wish the Oboises and everyone involved the very best and I look forward to many more years of success.

HONORING ELKHART GENERAL HOSPITAL ON ITS 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Elkhart General Hospital, celebrating its 100th anniversary of serving the good people of Elkhart, Indiana and the surrounding communities.

For 100 years, Elkhart General Hospital has been providing comprehensive medical care to residents of Elkhart, Indiana and the surrounding communities. Its dedicated administrators, medical professionals, and community partners focus on the hospital's vision of "creating a healthier community." Through their recognition that good health requires a holistic approach, the devoted members of the Elkhart General family work diligently to provide healthcare that embraces body, mind, and spirit.

On March 29, 1909, Elkhart General Hospital was officially incorporated. Funds were raised, and a brand new hospital was built and opened to serve the community that same year. In 1953, the hospital had 100 beds and 3,170 operations were performed—twice the national average for a facility that size.

Over the years, Elkhart General has grown with the community it serves. In 1965, it completed a four-story addition, increasing its capacity to 310 beds. In 1980, Computerized Tomography (CT) scan equipment was installed, and the move to increase the hospital's cancer care services was underway.

Today, Elkhart General is an independent, not-for-profit, community-owned healthcare system in the City of Elkhart. The 325 bed hospital serves more than 19,000 patients each month. Its professional medical staff is comprised of 330 physicians representing 30 medical specialties, and over 2,000 dedicated nurses, technical, administrative, and support staff. Together, this team provides a wealth of expert medical care and counseling to residents of this diverse community.

So today, on behalf of the citizens of the Second District, I would like to congratulate the fine medical staff, dedicated administrative personnel, essential support employees, and community volunteers who make Elkhart General Hospital an outstanding resource for complete medical care.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Thursday, October 22, 2009 and Friday, October 23, 2009.

On Thursday, October 22, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 798 (On ordering the previous question), "no" on rollcall vote No. 799 (on agreeing to H. Res. 846, which provides for consideration of H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 800 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 797), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 801 (on Agreeing to the Broun (GA) Amendment to H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 802 (on Agreeing to the Kaptur Amendment to H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 803 (on Agreeing to the Klein (FL) Amendment to H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 804 (on Agreeing to the Titus Amendment to H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 805 (on Agreeing to the Heinrich Amendment to H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 806 (on Agreeing to the Himes Amendment to H.R. 3585), "no" on rollcall vote No. 807 (on passage of H.R. 3585), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 808 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 175), "no" on rollcall vote No. 809 (On ordering the previous question on H. Res. 853), "no" on rollcall vote No. 810 (on agreeing to H. Res. 853, which provides for consideration of H.R. 3619), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 811 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 836)

On Friday, October 23, 2009, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 812 (on agreeing to the Kratovil amendment to H.R. 3619), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 813 (on passage of H.R. 3619).

HONORING PASTOR WILLARD L. SAUNDERS, JR. AND FIRST LADY DELICIA W. SAUNDERS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Pastor Willard

L. Saunders, Jr. and Delicia W. Saunders for their 15 years of outstanding, dedicated service to the Created For So Much More Worship Center.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, Pastor Saunders earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Frostburg State College and a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Loyola College in Education Administration. He went on to serve as a Vice Principal in the Baltimore City school system.

In 1994, after the passing of his father, the late Willard L. Saunders, Sr., Saunders was appointed Pastor of Created For So Much More Worship Center. Pastor Saunders immediately began to implement the vision he so clearly saw for the Created For So Much More Worship Center. This included expanding the center to allow for over 2,000 congregates, a chapel, and several conference rooms. Expanding the center allowed Pastor and First Lady Saunders to establish several community programs such as General Education Degree and computer training classes, which are offered free of charge to the community. Internationally, Pastor Saunders fathers numerous churches in Uganda and Kenya.

First Lady Saunders works steadfastly with Women of Destiny, a moving force throughout the Created For So Much More Worship Center that encourages women to engage in community activism. Her leadership and devotion to this program is a remarkable example for other women. First Lady Saunders is currently working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree and she is scheduled to graduate in May 2010.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Pastor Willard L. Saunders, Jr. and First Lady Delicia W. Saunders for their unwavering commitment to improving the lives of people in their community. Pastor and First Lady Saunders have set a standard of excellence and deserve the utmost gratitude for their hard work and achievements.

HONORING GIFFORD'S ICE CREAM OF MAINE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Gifford's Ice Cream of Skowhegan, Maine.

Gifford's Ice Cream recently won the "World's Best Chocolate Ice Cream" award at the World Dairy Expo. This Maine product earned a perfect score and was the only product that did. A few days after winning the Dairy Expo Award, Gifford's was named as a "Best Place to Work" by the Griffin Report on Food Marketing.

Gifford's Ice Cream stands have been Maine landmarks for almost 30 years. In 1980, Gifford's opened its first location in Skowhegan, Maine and has now expanded their business to five locations across the state. Even though they have grown, Gifford's of Maine has never forgotten to give back. Gifford's remains the family owned, community oriented business that it always has been. They have sponsored Maine youth soccer and supported local charities like the Lions Club. Gifford's also donates 10 percent of their profits, company wide, to various organizations